



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

Paula Parker-Sawyers, Executive Director

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Welcome to Friday Night Facts ! Next week, the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in partnership with the Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Family Social Services Administration, American Cancer Society, National Cancer Institute, Little Red Door and Pfizer, Inc. are hosting a mini-Health Summit at the Indiana Black Expo on Thursday, July 13th at 2 PM. The purpose of this summit is to highlight the significant health disparities between African-Americans and Caucasians in Indiana.

As Governor Daniels said in his State of the State Address this year *"It's a troublesome truth that ours is one of the least healthy states in America. We weigh, drink, and smoke too much, and exercise too little."*

Recognizing that this statement is even truer among African-Americans in Indiana, the organizations hosting the summit want to challenge clergy and lay leaders to make a commitment to change this trend. The ability to change the deadly health statistics plaguing our state rests with each of us and only we can do something about the problem. If you are interested in attending this Summit, call our office at 317-233-4273 to reserve a seat. If you cannot attend, then go to <http://www.in.gov/inshape/> to find out how you can improve your health today.

SUPPLEMENTAL STUDENT AID

Attention collegians! Academic Competitiveness (AC) and National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) grants are now available. These grants provide further incentive for students to take more challenging courses in high school and to pursue college majors which are in high demand in the global economy. On July 1, the Department's Federal Student Aid (FSA) Office will begin notifying Pell Grant-eligible students of their potential eligibility for AC grants via regular mail or email, and first- and second-year students can start applying for AC grants. Third- and fourth-year Pell Grant-eligible students who meet all requirements will automatically receive National SMART grants during the 2006-07 school year.

AC grants provide financial aid -- up to an additional \$750 for first-year students and up to an additional \$1,300 for second-year students -- to those students who complete rigorous high school coursework, are enrolled full-time, and maintain a 3.0 grade point average in college. National SMART grants provide up to an additional \$4,000 to third- and fourth-year students who major in math, science, or critical foreign languages, are enrolled full-time, and maintain a 3.0 GPA in college. It is estimated that 500,000 students will qualify to receive these grants. For more information, please go to <http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/competitiveness/ac-smart2.html>.

Fact for Life #141

Scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

"Facts for Life," a weekly e-mail providing statistics on the toll of tobacco to Hoosiers and the state of Indiana, is presented by Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation. For more information on Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation, visit, www.in.gov/itpc/ ; www.WhiteLies.tv or www.Voice.tv.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006.





PARTNERSHIP FORUM

The non-profit Business/Education Partnership Forum, <http://www.biz4ed.org/>, is a free online resource center for anyone involved in school-business partnerships, as well as for those interested in business' role in supporting K-12 education. It offers an index of current news articles and press announcements; various resources for businesses and schools (such as how-to guides and market reports); a directory of national, state, and local organizations; an index of best practices/ case studies; and an online forum where participants can communicate with others in the field.

July 2006 — TRAINING CALENDAR

Date/Time	Topic	Sponsors	Location	Cost	Contact
July 11 11:30 - 1:30	Board Roles and Responsibilities	United Way of Wabash Valley & Wabash Valley Community Foundation	Vigo Co. Public Library, Terre Haute	\$15 or \$10 United Way Agencies	www.inrn.org
July 11 9:30 - 11:30	Identifying Funders and Seeking Grants Using IMCPL's Foundation Center Resources	Indianapolis Marion County Public Library	Interim Central Library, Indianapolis	Free	317-269-5310
July 18 11:00 - 1:00	Creating a Press Kit	United Way of Delaware County	Ivy Tech State College, Muncie	\$15 - Includes Lunch	www.inrn.org
July 21 8:30 - 3:00	"An Overview of Evidence-Based Practices in Addiction Treatment"	Midtown Mental Health Center, National Institute on Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network	Crossroads, 4740 Kingsway Drive, Indianapolis	\$25 pre-registration, \$30 at door - Includes lunch & refreshments	Louise Polansky, 317-257-7540
July 25 11:30 - 1:30	Board Recruitment & Orientation	United Way of Wabash Valley & Wabash Valley Community Foundation	Vigo Co. Public Library, Terre Haute	\$15 or \$10 United Way Agencies	www.inrn.org
July 26 8:30-4:00	Tech Strategies for Not-for-Profit Leaders	NPower Indiana	English Foundation Building, Indianapolis	\$50, free for NPower members	www.npowerin.org
July 27 8:30-4:30	Developing an Annual Campaign	The Fund Raising School, Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network	Visiting Nurse Association, Evansville	\$39	www.inrn.org
July 27 11:15 - 2:00	Outcomes Measurement	Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network	Visiting Nurse Association, Evansville	\$10 - Includes Lunch	www.inrn.org



"I enjoy seeing the change in the men week after week. It's wonderful to see hope." –
Volunteer Teacher in the PLUS program

Getting involved is a PLUS to someone's life, your community and our world!

Like many others, have you been wondering, "What is all the talk about the PLUS program?" In June, 2005, The Indiana Department of Corrections initiated a program that allows offenders to change their way of thinking and their way of life. It is a 16-month intensive training program that teaches offenders how to think and behave differently, to interact with others in a positive way and to self-reflect and self-correct.

Those offenders who choose to be in the program live in community with each other, supporting each other in their journey toward being a more pro-social person. During their 16-month training, offenders attend classes and small group reflection sessions, while continuing to participate in other activities of their community life. They are given the choice of a Character-based track or a Faith-based track. Both tracks allow for life-enriching transformation. As one offender remarked, "It's changing my life around. I'm learning where I made my mistake."

Are you interested in being a part of this life-affirming initiative? Many others have already said, "Yes!" It takes only a few hours of training and most volunteers benefit from the training and teaching material as well.

An on-site Chaplain and Community Involvement Coordinator train the volunteers who want to be a positive influence in an offender's life. You can choose to teach a class on Character-based training or Faith-based training. Or you can become a mentor, simply by visiting with an offender a few times a month.

There are many ways to be involved with the PLUS program:

- Become a mentor and be a positive influence in an offender's life
- Lead classroom teaching and small group discussions
- As a congregation, you can mentor an offender as a teamwork project
- Assist an offender with release into the community

"The Purposeful Living Units Serve program has been innovative and has grown throughout Indiana correctional facilities. Since last year, we have expanded the program to twelve prisons with over one thousand participants at no cost to Indiana taxpayers," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "PLUS offers participants alternatives for rehabilitation whether offenders choose the character or faith-based track. Both are geared towards teaching core fundamental values that focus on positive reinforcement. This affirms our commitment towards positive re-entry into the community."

If you are eager to learn more, please call Chaplain Stephen Hall at the Department of Corrections in Indiana at 317-233-5236 or email him at sthall@doc.in.gov. They can travel to your location and present to you in full detail the PLUS program and explore the many ways that you can become involved.

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University has released their new survey report, **Indiana Nonprofits: A Portrait of Religious Nonprofits and Secular Charities** and can be viewed at <http://www.indiana.edu/~nonprof/results/npsurvey/insfaithbased.html>. The executive summary and key findings from the report are now posted on their project website at www.indiana.edu/~nonprof. The Center on Philanthropy is still working on additional survey reports profiling nonprofits in twelve communities across the state and have completed four so far.

Documentation of Citizenship, Identification Required for Medicaid Benefits

INDIANAPOLIS (June 20, 2006) – In accordance with the Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Secretary Mitch Roob announced today that applicants for Medicaid will be required to present proof of both citizenship and identification effective July 1, 2006. Currently, case workers ask a client if he/she is a citizen. If the answer is “no” or if the case worker has reason to question the applicant then verification is required. This change is intended to ensure that Medicaid recipients are who they represent themselves to be as well as citizens of the United States. “Indiana must comply with the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 or we will forfeit federal matching Medicaid dollars,” said Roob. Undocumented immigrants are eligible for emergency medical services only.

“We were already doing more than many states as far as requiring identification, so this is not going to be an added burden,” Roob explained. “This is the first in a number of changes mandated by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 that will take place. Those changes include a reauthorization of TANF rules, effective Oct. 1, 2006.” FSSA received notification of the new rules on June 9th from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS is the federal agency that determines and institutes federal Medicaid policy.

The Deficit Reduction Act requires specific documentary evidence of citizenship and identity before Medicaid eligibility is granted or renewed. In many cases, a single document will be sufficient to establish both citizenship and identity.

Those currently receiving benefits should not lose those benefits during the period in which they are undertaking a good-faith effort to provide documentation to the State. Documentation must be provided only at an individual’s next scheduled re-determination. **In addition, once citizenship has been proven, it does not have to be established again with each eligibility renewal.**

There will be a tiered system of documentation required to receive Medicaid benefits. A U.S. birth certificate will be acceptable in conjunction with another document proving identity, such as a current state driver’s license or state-issued identification card bearing the individual’s picture. In the case of a child not yet in school, a birth certificate must be provided and the parent must sign an affidavit vouching for the identity of the child. For more information, please refer to the FSSA Web site at <http://www.in.gov/fssa/> and click on Letter to State Medicaid Director from DHHS.

Information for this article was provided by the following sources: **Center on Budget and Policy Priorities**. “Medicaid ID Rule Could Put Health Coverage at Risk for 3 to 5 Million U.S. Citizens Starting July 1, State-by-State Data Show Millions to Be Affected.” Press Release. Washington, D.C. 30 June 2006. **State of Indiana**. **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration**.

Ain't nothin' to it but to do it
Maya Angelou